

## House Resolution No. 588

**Whereas**, the Missouri House of Representatives always welcomes the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the lives of Show-Me State couples who have admirably demonstrated the true vitality and strength of their love through the longevity of their marital vows; and

**Whereas**, Elton Ahlberg met his future bride, Joan, more than sixty-three years ago when he found the courage to ask her mother if her daughter could attend a church function with him; and

**Whereas**, although Elton found Joan to be gorgeous and Joan thought Elton was strikingly handsome, their first date didn't seem to go very well after he said that she was a "goody-two-shoes" and she determined that he was a "rascal"; and

**Whereas**, despite the rough start, Elton and Joan continued to date for two more years as their relationship matured and grew to be based on love, respect, and admiration; and

**Whereas**, on July 30, 1942, eighteen-year-old Elton Ahlberg married sixteen-year-old Joan in a wedding that cost less than twenty dollars; and

**Whereas**, the future looked bright since Elton was a Henry Ford Trade School graduate who was willing to work any job he could find and Joan soon proved to be an exceptional helpmate; and

**Whereas**, richly blessed with children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Elton and Joan have weathered illnesses, travels, and a successful search for her relatives overseas that pieced together some of the puzzles created by her childhood adoption; and

**Whereas**, Elton and Joan Ahlberg lived in the state of California and the town of Atherton, Missouri, before settling down in Grain Valley where the years of semi-retirement allowed them to engage in the demanding project of rebuilding their house:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar, long-lasting marriage so joyously shared by Elton and Joan Ahlberg, to convey to them this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes as they reflect on Sixty-one Years together as husband and wife; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Elton and Joan Ahlberg of Grain Valley, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Bryan Pratt  
District No. 55

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 588, adopted February 17, 2004.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker